

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.- 6. (Cancelled)

7. (New) A closing cone for screwing closures onto containers, comprising:

a receiving part;

a pick ring non-rotatably coupled with said receiving part, said pick ring including a plurality of movable segments;

an actuation system that adjusts said movable segments to vary an inner diameter of said pick ring, said actuation system including a cone-taper coupling between said receiving part and at least one of said movable segments; and

a pick-up system including a spring system acting on at least one of said movable segments, said spring system selectively exerting a biasing force on said at least one movable segment in the direction of a central axis of said closing cone;

wherein said cone-taper coupling selectively squeezes together said movable segments.

8. (New) The closing cone of claim 7 wherein said spring system is provided with at least one spring ring engaging at least one of said segments.

9. (New) The closing cone of claim 7 wherein said pick-up system includes at least one ball that is selectively subjected to a compliant force.

10. (New) The closing cone of claim 7 wherein said actuation system includes a resetting device.

11. (New) The closing cone of claim 7 wherein said pick-up ring includes a device for increasing the holding power on an inner surface thereof.

12. (New) The closing cone of claim 7 further comprising a torque transfer system.